

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 OPIC-03 SAM-01 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-01

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USIA-06 /066 W

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R 211545Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1825

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJ: POLITICAL PARTY DEVELOPMENTS

REF: LISBON 941 AND PREVIOUS

1. STATUS OF LEGAL RECOGNITION OF LEFTIST PARTIES:
LEFT SOCIALIST MOVEMENT (MOVIMENTO DA ESQUERDA SOCIALISTA-MES),
REFERRED TO AS "COMMUNIST PARTY NO. 3" BY ITS DETRACTORS, ON
FEB. 20 APPLIED TO SUPREME COURT FOR LEGAL RECOGNITION WITH
6359 SIGNATURES. MES IS THUS ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN WORK OF
NATIONAL ELECTORAL COMMISSION, ALONG WITH OTHER NINE PARTIES
WHICH MET FEB. 20 DEADLINE FOR PRESENTATION OF MINIMUM OF 5000
AUTHENTICATED SIGNATURES OF PARTY MEMBERS OR SUPPORTERS.

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DEADLINE FOR LEGALIZATION FO THOSE PARTIES WISHING TO RUN

CANDIDATES IN ELECTIONS IS MARCH 3. MAOIST-WORKER-FARMER ALLIANCE (ALIANCA OPERARIO-CAMPONESA -AOC) HAS ANNOUNCED IT WILL PRESENT ITS SIGNATURES TO SUPREME COURT AFTERNOON FEB. 21.

2. AVANTE TO BECOME DAILY:

LISBON AFTERNOON DAILY A CAPITAL STATES IN FEB. 20 EDITION THAT PCP WEEKLY AVANTE STARTING MARCH 1 WILL BEGIN APPEARING AS A DAILY. IN PRINCIPLE AVANTE WILL PUBLISH DAILY ONLY DURING THE FORTY DAYS CORRESPONDING TO DURATION OF ELECTORAL CAMPAIG, BUT A CAPITAL NOTES THAT POSSIBILITY EXISTS THAT AFTER CAMPAIGN PAPER WILL CONTINUE AS DAILY (COMMENT: NO OTHER OFFICIAL PARTY ORGAN PUBLISHES DAILY, NOR HAVE OTHERS INDICATED CONVERSION TO DAILY DURING CAMPAIGN.)

3. MDP/CDR CANDIDATES REVEALED:

PORTUGUESE DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT (MDP/CDE) PUBLISHED FEB. 19 ITS LIST OF CANDIDATES FOR UPCOMING ELECTIONS, BECOMING FIRST PARTY TO DO SO (ELECTORAL CALENDAR CALLS FOR OFFICIAL PRESENTATION OF LISTS OF PARTY CANDIDATES BETWEEN FEB. 27 AND MARCH 3). JUDGING FROM FACT THAT MDP ANNOUNCED 244 CANDIDATES, ASSUMPTION IS THAT PARTY RECEIVED ADVANCE INFORMATION THAT THERE WILL BE 244 DEPUTIES IN CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY. OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF TOTAL DEPUTIES BY LAW MUST BE PUBLISHED BY FEB. 26.

4. PPD SECRETARY GENERAL UNDERGOES SURGERY

DR. FRANCISCO SA CARNEIRO, SECRETARY GENERAL OF POPULAR DEMOCRATIC PARTY (PPD) UNDERWENT EMERGENCY SURGERY FEB. 18. HE ENTERED HOSPITAL PREVIOUS WEEK SUFFERING FROM EXHAUSTION. SOURCES CLOSE TO PPD LEADER STATE THAT DOCTORS OPERATED ON SA CARNEIRO'S PANCREAS/SPLEEN, BOTH OF WHICH DAMAGED IN AN AUTO ACCIDENT HE SFFERED TWO YEARS AGO. APPARENTLY HIS POOR OVERALL HEALTH IS OUTGROWTH OF AUTO ACCIDENT. WE UNDERSTAND SA CARNEIRO EXPECTED TO BE BACK ON HIS FEET WITHIN 3 WEEKS TO A MONTH. (COMMENT: SOME PPD MEMBERS HAVE BEEN CONCERNED WITH ABSENCE OF LEADERSHIP IN PARTY CAUSED BY SA CARNEIRO'S FREQUENT ILLNESS AND NOW HIS LONG RECUPERATION. THERE IS NO RECOGNIZED SUBSTITUTE FOR SA CARNEIRO IN THE TOP PPD LEADERSHIP FOR THE CRITICAL PRE-CAMPAIGN PERIOD).

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